

EXHIBIT A

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent Service on this date and in its entirety as required by the United States Patent Service, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Signature: *Tanguy Marie*



P&G Case CM-2553M

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the application of
Tanguy Marie Louise Alexandre Catlin, et al. : Confirmation No. 8519
Serial No. 09/994,533 : Group Art Unit 1751
Filed November 27, 2001 : Examiner Not Yet Assigned

For : DETERGENT PRODUCTS, METHODS AND MANUFACTURE

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made below in a Form PTO/SB08 of documents which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the documents listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

1. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1) - U.S. Direct (within 3-months of filing a regular application or converted provisional)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1), is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

2. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2) - Via PCT (within 3 mo. of Nat'l Stage Entry)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2), is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

3. ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3) - (>3 mo. after filing direct or nat'l stage entry, but before 1st O.A.)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3). Applicants have not received an Office Action on the merits in the present application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due. However, in the event that this paper is crossing in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits, authorization is hereby given to charge the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed to facilitate charging of the fee, if necessary.

**THE FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
PERTAINING TO (2) OR (3) MARKED WITH AN (X) ABOVE.**

(a) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that both a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited therein are present in the national stage file. In accordance with MPEP §1893.03(g), it is respectfully requested that the Examiner note the consideration of these references in the first Office Action via the PTO-892 form.

(b) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that a copy of the International Search Report is present in the national stage file. Copies of the references cited in that report are enclosed.

(c) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 does not indicate that a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited are present in the national stage file. Copies of the International Search Report and references are attached.

4. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(4) - (before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4), is being filed with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

5. ☐ Information to be Considered with CPA Filing. This information disclosure statement is being filed with a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d).

6. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) with fee payment - (use after 1st Office Action & before Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). Applicant(s) have not received a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (e.g., *Ex parte Quayle*) as of the date of this submission. Applicant(s) elect to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account Number 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate copy of this letter (or a fee transmittal form) is enclosed to facilitate the charging of the fee.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE NOTED BY THE EXAMINER:

☐ (1) Copies of the cited references were previously cited by or submitted to the USPTO in prior application Case No. _____, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____, filed _____. Applicant(s) claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of those documents are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

OR

☒ (2) Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

OR


☐ (3) Copies of all said documents, except document No.'s _____, were submitted and considered in parent application U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____, filed _____. Applicant(s) claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of document No.'s _____ are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). Copies of document No.'s _____ are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case.

☒ (4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c), a concise explanation of the relevance of each cited reference that is not in the English language is provided.

☒ (5) Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider and make of record the copending applications listed on the attached page.

☐ Additional information is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 18, 2003

Customer No. 27752

(IDS.doc)
(Last Revised 5/21/02)

COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Entire copies of all co-pending applications (or the portion of the application and claims that caused it to be cited) must be sent with the IDS (see 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii))

<u>Atty. Docket No.</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Inventor(s)</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
8020Z	09/821,375	Carter, et al.	03-29-2001 (US 2002/0028756A1)
6525XCLS	09/832,480	Busch, et al.	04-11-2001 (US 2002/0004473A1)
CM-2393	09/898,740	Porta, et al.	07-03-2001 (US 2002/0055449A1)
CM-2583	09/906,295	DeNome, et al.	07-16-2001 (US 2002/0142931A1)
CM-2488	09/906,480	Bennie, et al.	07-16-2001 (US 2002/0123443A1)
CM-2408	09/920,413	Forth, et al.	08-01-2001 (US 2002/0045559A1)
CM-556MC	09/933,021	Bailliey, et al.	08-20-2001 (US 2002/0013242A1)
8242M	09/946,375	Danneels, et al.	09-05-2001 (US 2002/0094942A1)
CM-2440M	09/999,638	Lant, et al.	10-24-2001 (US 2002/0115583A1)
CM-2439M	09/999,637	Lant, et al.	10-24-2001 (US 2002/0119903A1)
CM-2451	09/992,358	Fisher, et al.	11-14-2001 (US 2002/0123444A1)
CM-2478M	09/994,557	Sharma, et al.	11-27-2001 (US 2002/0137648A1)
CM-2553M	09/994,533	Cattin, et al.	11-27-2001 (US 2002/0169092A1)
CM-2511M2	10/095,781	Elesse, et al.	03-12-2002 (US 2002/0166779A1)
CM-2516	10/095,786	Forth, et al.	03-12-2002 (US 2002/0169095A1)

Published copending applications are listed on PTO/SB08A.,

[ones that are pending at time of this filing; others that have issued get cited on the PTO/SB08.]

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF REFERENCES IN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
ENGLISH**

European patent application EP 0 132 726, according to the English language abstract, relates to a pack for use in discharging agents into a washing machine at different predetermined temps.

German patent application WO 02/14460 A2, according to the English language abstract, relates to a washing, rinsing or cleaning agent dose comprising a fully or partially water-soluble coating in the form of a capsule, a ball or a bag.